



R. Price
S. Price
Sancocho

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RICHARD & SALLY PRICE

SANCOCHO

In devoting this essay to *sancocho*, we continue our tradition of annual book round-ups spiced with Caribbean culinary lore. Having already served up pepperpot and rundown from the Anglophone islands, *migan* from Martinique and Guadeloupe, and callaloo from all of the above, the time seemed ripe to turn to the Hispanic Caribbean. And as our list of books has expanded (from the forty to fifty of previous years to nearly one hundred in this installment), a dish with as many ingredients as *sancocho* seemed particularly appropriate.

According to Manuel Vargas, who generously shared with us his ample knowledge of *sancocho* in the Dominican Republic, the ideal is to include seven meats (pork, beef, goat, chicken, turkey, duck, and pigeon) as well as “many spices and as many roots and vegetables as possible.” Ligia Espinal de Hoetink’s more detailed recipe, also from the Dominican Republic, includes *longaniza* sausage, chicken, pork chops, salt pork, and goat meat, as well as pumpkin, plantains, corn-on-the-cob, four root crops, vinegar, and a variety of herbs, vegetables, and broths. Our Man in San Juan, Antonio Díaz-Royo, provided a number of Puerto Rican recipes from both literary and domestic sources, even treading in the perilous waters of mother-daughter rivalry by eliciting versions from his wife, Cruz Nazario, and her mother, Doña Sol (whose reaction to her daughter’s recipe, presented anonymously by her diplomatic son-in-law, was to dismiss it as mere *sopón*). Despite variation on some of the details (notably celery, chickpeas, and *sofrito*), they both confirmed the general heart of the dish – several different meats and root crops, plus plantains, pumpkin, and corn-on-the-cob. There are also regional differences; Vargas reports that in the Dominican Republic, for example, wheat-flour dumplings are used in the east but pigeon peas are more common in the north and southwest.

Elisabeth Lambert Ortiz's *Complete Book of Caribbean Cooking* (1973) offers seven *sancocho* recipes, all from the Dominican Republic, plus a *saucochi di gallinja* from Aruba (whose ingredients include beef, veal, chicken, potatoes, sweet potatoes, pumpkin, corn-on-the-cob, plantains, and more) and a Trinidadian dish called *sancoche*, which adds coconut cream and cornmeal dumplings to the usual list of ingredients. Trinidadian *sancoche* is documented without the cornmeal dumplings in *Callaloo, Calypso & Carnival: The Cuisines of Trinidad and Tobago* (see *NWIG* 68:130); it has also been described as a Saturday dish that simply cooks up all the week's leftovers (meat, cocoo, rice, fish, etc.) in a single pot (Gerard Pantin, *A Mole Cricket Called Servol*, Ypsilanti MI: High/Scope Press, 1979:115) – a concept that strikes us as particularly analogous to the mixed pot of otherwise-unreviewed books we present in the following pages. We have been told that *sancocho* is also found in Colombia and Venezuela.

Putting theory into practice while writing this essay, we served up our own seven-meat *sancocho* at a pre-Christmas party. Our Martiniquan guests suggested that the closest local equivalent, in this ever racially-conscious society, might be *manjé-milat* (“mulatto meal”), which is made with “half chicken and half pork, half plantains and half root crops.” As part of the same discussion, poet Nancy Morejón, in Martinique to serve on the jury for the Prix Carbet des Caraïbes (awarded this year to Raphaël Confiant, see below) reported that there's nothing called *sancocho* in her native Cuba but that *ajiaco* comes very close. Indeed, one printed source (the upper-class *Memories of a Cuban Kitchen* – see *NWIG* 68:130) offers an *ajiaco criollo* that includes three kinds of beef, green and ripe plantains, corn-on-the-cob, pumpkin, five root crops, and a *sofrito*.

All of our consultants say that sliced avocados are a customary side dish, all mention rainy days as particularly appropriate for *sancocho*-eating, and all link the stew to rural, rather than urban, settings (though Harry Hoetink encouraged an open attitude toward contexts, citing an exceptionally good *sancocho* that he and Ligia once stumbled upon in a shopping-mall restaurant in Kissimmee, Florida). While our two main Dominican authorities differed on whether the dish should be enjoyed with rum or beer, both cited the classic merengue, “El sancocho prieto.” Manuel Vargas provided the full lyrics (by Julio Alberti) to support his argument about the strong sexual connotations of the dish:

Del sancocho prieto
color de tu carne,
tú tendrás que darme,
porque estoy hambriento.

Some black sancocho,
with meat of your color,
you'll have to give me
because I'm very hungry.

Del sancocho dame,
tambien de tu amor.
Quiero con ardor
yo saciar el hambre.

Give me some sancocho
as well as your love.
I want passionately
to satisfy my hunger.

El humo de la paila
quema tan caliente
como quema tu alma.

The smoke from the kettle
is burning as hot
as your soul is burning.

Dentro la gallina
sabe tan sabrosa como tú
hermosa, sabes a divina.

Inside, the chicken
tastes as sweet as you,
my beauty, who tastes divine.

There's much more to the story, in terms of such considerations as race, class, and gender. But we have many books to review, and must move on.

We begin, as usual, with our Caribbeanist Hall of Shame, listing those books that (as of press time, January 1995) we have been unable to review because the scholars who agreed to the task (identified here by initials in square brackets) have – despite reminder letters – neither provided a review nor returned the books so that they could be assigned to someone else. As in the past, this paragraph may serve as a kind of backlist “books received.” (And as always, we would still welcome the submission of any of these reviews, however tardy.) *The Atlantic Slave Trade: Effects on Economies, Societies, and Peoples in Africa, the Americas, and Europe*, edited by Joseph E. Inikori & Stanley L. Engerman (Durham: Duke University Press, 1992, cloth US\$ 45.00, paper US\$ 17.95) [J.C.C.]; *Ideology and Class Conflict in Jamaica: The Politics of Rebellion*, by Abigail B. Bakan (Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1990, cloth US\$ 39.95) [D.A.-B.]; *The Meaning of Freedom: Economics, Politics, and Culture after Slavery*, edited by Frank McGlynn & Seymour Drescher (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1992, cloth US\$ 49.95, paper US\$ 19.95) [L.R.]; *Whispers from the Caribbean: I Going Away, I Going Home*, by Wilfred Cartey (Los Angeles: Center for Afro-American Studies, UCLA, 1991, paper US\$ 43.00) [M.McW.]; *The Islands and the Sea: Five Centuries of Nature Writing from the Caribbean*, edited by John A. Murray (New York: Oxford University Press, 1991, cloth US\$ 22.95)

[D.W.]; *El Caribe hacia el 2000*, edited by Andrés Serbin & Anthony Bryan (Editorial Nueva Sociedad, 1991, paper n.p.), *¿Vecinos indiferentes? El Caribe de habla inglesa y América Latina*, edited by Andrés Serbin & Anthony Bryan (Caracas: Editorial Nueva Sociedad, 1990, paper n.p.) and *El Caribe entre Europa y América: Evolución y perspectivas*, edited by Luis Beltrán & Andrés Serbin (Caracas: Editorial Nueva Sociedad, 1992, paper n.p.) [C.A.R.]; *Haiti and the United States: The Psychological Moment*, by Brenda Gayle Plummer (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1992, paper US\$ 18.50, cloth US\$ 45.00) [K.R.]; *Sojourners in the Sun: Scottish Migrants in Jamaica and the Chesapeake, 1740-1800*, by Alan L. Karras (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1992, cloth US\$ 34.50) [R.A.McD.]; *Surinaams contrast: Roofbouw en overleven in een Caraïbische plantagekolonie 1750-1863*, by Alex van Stipriaan (Leiden: KITLV, 1993, paper NLG 60.00) [R.B.-S.]; *Peregrinos de la libertad: Documentos y fotos de exilados puertorriqueños del siglo XIX localizados en los archivos y bibliotecas de Cuba*, by Félix Ojeda Reyes (San Juan: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1992, cloth US\$ 29.95) [J.L.D.]; *The Suffering Grass: Superpowers and Regional Conflict in Southern Africa and the Caribbean*, edited by Thomas G. Weiss & James G. Blight (Boulder CO: Lynne Rienner, 1992, cloth US\$ 30.00) and *The Russians Aren't Coming: New Soviet Policy in Latin America*, edited by Wayne S. Smith (Boulder CO: Lynne Rienner, 1991, cloth US\$ 25.00) [A.S.]; *Identifying Crime Correlates in a Developing Society: A Study of Socio-Economic and Socio-Demographic Contributions to Crime in Jamaica, 1950-1984*, by Hyacinthe Ellis (New York: Peter Lang, 1991, cloth US\$ 49.95) [J.E.]; *The Novels of V.S. Naipaul: A Study in Themes and Form*, by Shashi Kamra (New Delhi: Prestige, 1990, cloth Rs. 180) and *On the Margins: The Art of Exile in V.S. Naipaul*, by Timothy F. Weiss (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1992, cloth US\$ 30.00) [S.N.]; *Esclaves et citoyens: Les noirs à la Guadeloupe au XIXe siècle dans les processus de résistance et d'intégration (1802-1910)*, by Josette Fallope (Basse-Terre Guadeloupe: Société d'Histoire de la Guadeloupe, 1992, paper n.p.) [D.T.]; *Sources of Bahamian History*, edited by Philip Cash, Shirley Gordon & Gail Saunders (London: Macmillan Caribbean, 1991, paper £6.95) and *Supplement to A Guide to Source Materials for the Study of Barbados History, 1627-1834*, by Jerome S. Handler (Providence RI: The John Carter Brown Library and The Barbados Museum and Historical Society, 1991, cloth US\$ 22.50) [H.J.]; *The Jamaican Stage, 1655-1900: Profile of a Colonial Theatre*, by Errol Hill (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1992, cloth US\$ 35.00) [L.F.]; *Ex-iles: Essays on Caribbean Cinema*, edited by Mbye

Cham (Trenton NJ: Africa World Press, 1992, cloth US\$ 49.95, paper US\$ 18.95) [K.A.]; *The Caribbean in the Pacific Century: Prospects for Caribbean-Pacific Cooperation*, by Jacqueline A. Braveboy-Wagner, with W. Marvin Will, Dennis J. Gayle & Ivelaw L. Griffith (Boulder CO: Lynne Rienner, 1993, cloth US\$ 35.00) and *Pursuing Postdependency Politics: South-South Relations in the Caribbean*, by H. Michael Erisman (Boulder CO: Lynne Rienner, 1993, cloth US\$ 30.00) [R.P.]; *Les représentations du corps chez les noirs marrons ndjuka du Surinam et de la Guyane française*, by Diane Vernon (Paris: ORSTOM, 1992, n.p.) [D.N'D.]; *Sam Selvon's Dialectical Style and Fictional Strategy*, by Clement H. Wyke (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1991, cloth US\$ 35.95) [V.R.]; *The C.L.R. James Reader*, edited by Anna Grimshaw (Oxford: Blackwell, 1992, cloth £45.00, paper £12.95) [B.S.]. And finally, none of the several Césaire specialists we asked to review *Aimé Césaire*, by Janis L. Pallister (New York: Twayne, 1991, cloth US\$ 24.95), felt it worthy of their attention.

Although as a matter of policy the *NWIG* does not review literature, we continue the tradition of briefly noting those new works that we have seen in the last twelve months. First, two contrasting novels. V.S. Naipaul's *A Way in the World: A Novel* (New York: Knopf, 1994, cloth US\$ 23.00) covers vast territories of the imagination, from the precise, almost surgical memoirs of his summer-before-leaving-for-England as an assistant clerk in the Red House, to morose wanderings and dreamings near the mouth of the Orinoco, contemplating El Dorado – all themes he has plumbed before, yet once again with that inimitable stylistic finesse and chilling gaze. With *Stedman and Joanna – A Love in Bondage: Dedicated Love in the Eighteenth Century* (New York: Vantage, 1991, cloth US\$ 15.95), Beryl Gilroy offers an apparently well-meaning (vanity-press) historical novel that hovers between the maudlin and the ridiculous; though the author has previously produced respectable fiction, this work can only be read as an embarrassment even by someone unfamiliar with Stedman's original, which needs no bowdlerization.

An unusual number of first novels have appeared. *Dreaming in Cuban*, by Cristina Garcia (New York: Knopf, 1992, cloth US\$ 20.00), moves back and forth, with panache and pathos, between Havana and Brooklyn, international and domestic politics, and the lives of four women. *Secrets* (New York: Villard, 1993, cloth US\$ 20.00), by Trinidadian-born New York writer Kelvin Christopher James, depicts in lyrical prose an island girl's coming of age. In *Under the Silk Cotton Tree* (Brooklyn NY: Interlink, 1993, paper US\$ 9.95), Jean Buffong weaves richly-textured tales of village life in her native Grenada. *Me Dying Trial*, by Jamaican-

born Patricia Powell (Oxford: Heinemann, 1993, paper £5.99), provides a bitter-sweet perspective on the everyday realities of rural domestic life. *The Roads Are Down* (Oxford: Heinemann, 1993, paper £4.99), by Jamaican Vanessa Spence, engagingly explores the romance between a married American man and a young woman from the Blue Mountains. With *Harriet's Daughter* (Oxford: Heinemann, 1988, paper £5.99), the accomplished Tobagan-Canadian poet Marlene Nourbese Philip has published a book for children, dealing with such themes as migration, exile, and the inter-generational conflicts in adjusting to a multi-racial society. *The Dispossessed*, by Clem Maharaj (Oxford: Heinemann, 1992, paper £5.99), is an *engagé* exploration of the lives of the working poor on a Trinidad sugar estate. And Lawrence Scott's *Witchbroom* (Oxford: Heinemann, 1993, paper £6.99) recounts, through an androgynous narrator, carnival tales interwoven with a visionary history of his native Trinidad.

The latest crop of Francophone literature includes no fewer than three simultaneously-published works by Raphaël Confiant (complementing two major books he published the previous year): *Bassin des Ouragans* (Paris: Mille et Une Nuits, 1994, paper FF 10) is a mini-divertissement about contemporary Martinique; *Commandeur du sucre* (Paris: Ecriture, 1994, paper FF 120) offers a somewhat cardboard, didactic *récit* about 1930s life in and around the canefields; and the prize-winning *L'Allée des Soupirs* (Paris: Grasset, 1994, paper FF 130), depicts *la vie foyalaise* during the anti-colonial riots of 1959. Confiant's companion-in-*créolité*, Patrick Chamoiseau, has written a sequel to his own Prix Carbet winner, *Antan d'enfance* (1990); set next to Lamming's classic *In the Castle of My Skin*, which covers similar ground, Chamoiseau's *Chemin-d'école* (Paris: Gallimard, 1994, paper FF 80) seems cloyingly cute, adopting the third person (like the autobiographies of Charles de Gaulle and Julius Caesar) to depict the darling little *négrillon*, with an effect that is not unreminiscent of a highbrow *bande dessinée*. Finally, a very different sort of autobiographical work by the long-time rightist politician Victor Sablé, *Mémoires d'un Foyalais, des îles d'Amérique aux bords de la Seine* (Paris: Maisonneuve & Larose, 1993, paper FF 115), tries to settle old scores and offers a profoundly French-oriented, non-*créoliste* vision of Martinique.

Four recent short-story collections have come in. *A Boy Named Ossie: A Jamaican Childhood* (Oxford: Heinemann, 1991, paper £4.95), by Earl McKenzie, is filled with simple tales of growing up in rural St Andrews. *Mint Tea and Other Stories*, by Jamaican Christine Craig (Oxford: Heinemann, 1993, paper £5.99), focuses on women's life on the island. *The Man Who Loved Attending Funerals and Other Stories* (Oxford: Heinemann, 1993, paper £5.99) collects for the first time some of the Bajan

stories by the late Frank Collymore, editor of *Bim* and godfather of the whole West Indian literary renaissance of the 1940s and 1950s. *It So Happen* (Oxford: Heinemann, 1991, paper £4.95) reissues the lively 1975 collection by the late Timothy Callender, from whom we once bought a novel he was hawking at the Barbados airport (*How Music Came to the Ainchan People*, 1979).

Several major works of West Indian literature have been reprinted. The University of Michigan Press (Ann Arbor) has brought out George Lamming's 1954 novel, *The Emigrants* (1994, paper US\$ 14.95), as well as a collection of his essays first published in 1960, *The Pleasures of Exile* (1992, cloth US\$ 42.50, paper US\$ 14.95), this latter with an insightful new foreword by Sandra Pouchet Paquet. The republication of Sam Selvon's *Moses Migrating* (Washington DC: Three Continents, 1992, cloth US\$ 20.00, paper US\$ 9.50) reminds us of the author's infectious and unpretentious enthusiasms – visiting Martinique from England just months before his death last year, he picked the very hottest kind of pepper from a bush in our garden and swallowed the better part of it, remarking that he hadn't eaten a fresh one since he'd last been in the West Indies. Roy Heath's *The Armstrong Trilogy: From the Heat of the Day, One Generation, Genetha* (New York: Persea, 1994, paper US\$ 15.00) brings together three of this Guyanese novelist's best, collected here for the first time in one volume, as he intended. Duke University Press (Durham NC) has brought back into print C.L.R. James's classic memoir of colonialism, cricket, and growing up Trinidadian, *Beyond a Boundary* (1993, paper US\$ 14.95). And the professorial team of William Breit & Kenneth G. Elzinga, who write under the name of Marshall Jevons, now boast a new edition of their 1978 mystery *Murder at the Margin* (Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press, 1993, cloth US\$ 34.95, paper US\$ 10.95), which uses (and from our Caribbeanist perspective, abuses) St. John as the platform for their lessons in economic rationality.

Several literary works have appeared in translation. Maryse Condé's *I, Tituba, Black Witch of Salem* (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1992, cloth US\$ 19.95) translates her 1986 imaginative account; an interview with the author following the text makes clear that her intent was to follow her intuitions about Puritan New England and Tituba's role in it rather than to write a "historical novel." *Between Two Worlds* (Oxford: Heinemann, 1992, paper £5.99) translates Simone Schwarz-Bart's second novel, *Ti Jean L'horizon* (1979), and *Le Chânon Poétique* (Champigny-sur-Marne: Edition L.C.J., 1994, paper n.p.) offers a selection of works by Cuban poet Nancy Morejón, in facing-page Spanish and French. And selected poems of Angel Cuadra, a Cuban (now-exile) of a very different

stripe, are presented by Warren Hampton in *Angel Cuadra: The Poet in Socialist Cuba* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1994, cloth US\$ 19.95).

A number of new collections of poetry have come to our attention. From Jamaica to New England, Lorna Goodison's *Selected Poems* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1992, cloth US\$ 34.50, paper US\$ 12.95) speaks in a rich and vibrant voice. Merle Collins's *Rotten Pomerack* (London: Virago, 1992, paper £5.99) moves rather between Grenada and London, and between longing to remember and trying to forget. *Spring Cleaning* (London: Virago, 1992, paper £5.99) is the most recent collection by Jean 'Binta' Breeze, the well-known Jamaican performance poet. And *Duppy Jamboree and Other Jamaican Poems*, by Valerie Bloom (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992, cloth £5.50, paper £3.75), consists of performance poems for children.

Kamau Brathwaite has published two major poetic works. *The Zea Mexican Diary* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1993, cloth US\$ 17.95) is a sustained, riveting account of his innermost thoughts during the three months when his wife Doris ("Mex") was dying of cancer in 1986 – written in his emerging "video" style. His richly-textured *Barabajan Poems 1492-1992* (Kingston & New York: Savacou North, 1994, paper n.p.), presented in full-scale "video" on large-format pages, is filled with multiple surprises and humor. David Dabydeen's *Turner: New & Selected Poems* (London: Jonathan Cape, 1994, paper £7.00) presents his lyrical but muscular long poem, "Turner," taking off from that artist's luminous and horrific 1840 painting, "Slavers Throwing Overboard the Dead and Dying."

Several books of essays deserve mention. *Roots*, by Kamau Brathwaite (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1993, cloth US\$ 32.50, paper US\$ 14.95), reprints a collection first published by Casa de las Americas (Havana, 1986) gathering a number of EKB's major essays, including "History of the Voice." *Motherlands: Black Women's Writing from Africa, the Caribbean and South Asia*, edited by Susheila Nasta (New Brunswick NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1992, cloth US\$ 36.00, paper US\$ 12.95), brings together essays by a variety of astute critics. Pedro Pérez Sarduy & Jean Stubbs have introduced and edited the timely collection *AfroCuba: An Anthology of Cuban Writing on Race, Politics and Culture* (Melbourne Australia: Ocean Press, 1993, paper US\$ 34.95). Anil Ramdas has published the second in his series of snappy T.V. interviews with non-Dutch intellectuals, *In mijn vaders huis II* (Amsterdam: Jan Mets, 1994, paper NLG 27.50), this time engaging among others Edward Said, Paul Gilroy, bell hooks, and Dick Hebdige.

There are three new relevant volumes in the World Bibliographical Series, published at Oxford by Clio, and each containing some 600 annotated items: *Virgin Islands*, compiled by Verna Penn Moll (1991, cloth US\$ 78.00), which includes much useful material but inexplicably manages to overlook Gordon K. Lewis's *The Virgin Islands: A Caribbean Lilliput* (1972); *St. Vincent and the Grenadines*, compiled by Robert B. Potter (1992, cloth US\$ 79.00); and *Netherlands Antilles and Aruba*, compiled by Kai Schoenhals (1993, cloth US\$ 50.00), which suffers even more than the others from the series-wide targeting of mono-lingual Anglophone readers. The distinguished Haitianist Léon-François Hoffmann has produced *Bibliographie des études littéraires haïtiennes 1804-1984* (Vanves: EDICEF, 1992, paper FF 120), an unannotated 2767-item-long list that makes a brave beginning in what are perhaps the Caribbean's most bibliographically troubled waters. Manuel J. Carvajal's *The Caribbean 1975-1980: A Bibliography of Economic and Rural Development* (Metuchen NJ: Scarecrow, 1993, cloth US\$ 89.50) explains neither the justification for (or significance of) its strict temporal limitations nor the rather random nature of its 5300 largely unannotated selections. *Political Parties of the Americas and the Caribbean: A Reference Guide* (Harlow Essex: Longman, 1992, cloth £82.00), edited by John Coggins & D.S. Lewis, provides encyclopedia-type data, including recent election results, updated to May 1992.

A number of recent books devote one or more chapters to the Caribbean. *Size & Survival: The Politics of Security in the Caribbean and the Pacific* (London: Cass, 1993, cloth £30.00), edited by Paul Sutton & Anthony Payne, includes Gary Brana-Shute's analysis of the Tukuyana Amazonas insurgency in Suriname, Bishnu Ragoonath's assessment of the Abu Bakr coup in Trinidad, Ivelaw L. Griffith's overview of drug penetration in the Commonwealth Caribbean, and Paul Sutton's reflections on small state security in the region. Joseph K. Adjaye's edited book, *Time in the Black Experience* (Westport CT: Greenwood, 1994, cloth US\$ 55.00), has a nuanced chapter by Kenneth M. Bilby about time and history among the Aluku Maroons as well as one by the volume's editor on the Maroons of Jamaica. *Campesinos: Kleine boeren in Latijns-Amerika, vanaf 1520*, edited by Arij Ouweneel (Amsterdam: Thela, 1993, paper NLG 49.50), gathers eighteen pieces by one American and several Dutch scholars including two on the Caribbean: Gert Oostindie's historical overview of Caribbean peasantries and Michiel Baud's analysis of nineteenth- and twentieth-century peasants in the Dominican Republic's Cibao region. *Robert Durfee's Journal and Recollections of Newport, Rhode Island, Freetown, Massachusetts, New York City & Long Island*,

Jamaica & Cuba, West Indies & Saint Simons Island, Georgia, ca. 1785-1810, edited by Virginia Steele Wood (Marion MA: Belden Books, 1990, cloth US\$ 29.95), contains a few pages on the Caribbean but the author's illness during this portion of the voyage limited his observations. For those still unsatiated by the Quincentenary, Rebecca Catz provides a Luso-centric perspective on the Great Navigator in *Christopher Columbus and the Portuguese, 1476-1498* (Westport CT: Greenwood, 1993, cloth US\$ 45.00). Alan Dundes's excellent and wide-ranging anthology, *The Cockfight: A Casebook* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1994, cloth US\$ 58.00, paper US\$ 19.95), includes a lone chapter on the Caribbean – Francis Affergan's idiosyncratic structuralist/psychoanalytic take on the Martiniquan variant. *France's Overseas Frontier: Départements et Territoires d'Outre-Mer* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992, cloth US\$ 69.95), by Robert Aldrich & John Connell, competently skims through history, politics, and culture, serving as a useful English-language introduction to these "confetti of empire" – including Martinique, Guadeloupe, and Guyane. Jean Benoist's important work of medical anthropology, *Anthropologie médicale en société créole* (Paris: Presses Universitaires de France, 1993, paper FF 178), focuses on the fourth of France's *vieilles colonies*, Réunion in the Indian Ocean, but within an analytical framework of creolization that Caribbeanists would ignore at their peril. Finally, *Creole Movements in the Francophone Orbit* (special issue of *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*, no. 102, 1993), edited by Ellen M. Schnepel & Lambert-Félix Prudent, includes several Caribbeanist chapters: on St. Lucia, Dominica, Haiti, Guadeloupe, and Martinique.

A number of new editions or reprints of scholarly works merit mention. Prefaced by a new foreword by Faye V. Harrison, *Comparative Perspectives on Slavery in New World Plantation Societies* (New York: New York Academy of Sciences, 1993, cloth US\$ 42.00), edited by Vera Rubin & Arthur Tuden, still contains much lively debate. A second edition has appeared of Sally Price's *Co-Wives and Calabashes* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1993, paper US\$ 14.50) with a new preface updating the situation of Maroon women and engaging some recent feminist controversies. *The Puerto Ricans: A Documentary History*, edited by Kal Wagenheim & Olga Jiménez de Wagenheim (Princeton: Markus Wiener, 1994, paper n.p.), is a lightly revised edition of a 1973 collection. Unchanged reprints include: *Bondsmen and Rebels: A Study of Master-Slave Relations in Antigua*, by David Barry Gaspar (Durham NC: Duke University Press, 1993, paper US\$ 18.95); *Puerto Rico's Revolt for Independence: El Grito de Lares*, by Olga Jiménez de Wagenheim (Prince-

ton: Markus Wiener, 1993, paper US\$ 11.95); and *A History of the Virgin Islands of the United States*, by Isaac Dookhan (Kingston Jamaica: Canoe Press, 1994, paper J\$ 494.00). *Cuba: A Short History*, edited by Leslie Bethel (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993, cloth US\$ 44.95, paper US\$ 14.95), reprints in handy form the country-specific chapters from the *Cambridge History of Latin America* (see *NWIG* 67:104). *A Black Woman's Odyssey through Russia and Jamaica: The Narrative of Nancy Prince*, introduced by Ronald G. Walters (New York: Markus Wiener, 1990, paper US\$ 8.95), makes available this free African American's description of her 1840-41 stay in post-emancipation Jamaica. *Puerto Rico: The Four-Storeyed Country and Other Essays*, by José Luis González (Princeton: Markus Wiener, 1993, paper US\$ 12.95), translates for the first time these provocative essays on national identity by one of Puerto Rico's leading writers. And Reinier Heere, through his publishing house Lord & Hunter based on St. Maarten, has begun issuing a series of reprints on the history of the island; entitled *Tropical Mirror*, the series has thus far published relevant portions of M.D. Teenstra's *De Nederlandsch West-Indische eilanden* (1836/1837) as well as a 1937 article by F.S. Langemeyer in *De West-Indische Gids*, both translated into English.

There are several new books of photography and a number on art, architecture, and gardening. The large-format *Dancing on Fire: Photographs from Haiti*, by Maggie Steber with an introduction by Amy Wilentz (New York: Aperture, 1991, cloth n.p.) presents absolutely gripping color photos, taken between 1986 and 1991, arranged in a narrative sequence that underlines the horror and beauty – the despair and hope – of daily life during that period. In the stark, breathtaking *Puerto Rico Mio: Four Decades of Change / Cuatro décadas de cambio* (Washington D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1990, paper US\$ 24.95) – which has introductory essays by, among others, Sidney W. Mintz and Arturo Morales Carrión – Jack Delano presents some 175 of the b/w photos (here printed as duotones) that he shot during the 1940s and 1980s, above all riveting images of working people and their families. *Havana: Portrait of a City*, by Juliet Barclay with photographs by Martin Charles (London: Cassell, 1993, cloth US\$ 35.00) mainly portrays architectural monuments, to the end of the nineteenth century. Ute Stebich's *A Haitian Celebration: Art and Culture* (Milwaukee: Milwaukee Art Museum, 1992, paper n.p.) documents the fine collection recently acquired by the Milwaukee museum. *The Art of Exclusion: Representing Blacks in the Nineteenth Century*, by Albert Boime (Washington DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1990, paper US\$ 24.95), conveniently presents a range of important and oft-neglected materials.

The Caribbean: A Painter's Paradise, by William Wood (London: Macmillan Caribbean, 1993, cloth £9.99), consists of this British author's own West Indian paintings, set off by fragments from the poems of Walcott, McKay, Drayton, and others. John Michael Vlach's handsome *Back of the Big House: The Architecture of Plantation Slavery* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1993, cloth US\$ 37.50, paper US\$ 18.95) is devoted to the architecture of North American slave culture but contains pictures and insights relevant to all Caribbean historians. *African-American Gardens and Yards in the Rural South*, by Richard Westmacott (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1992, paper US\$ 24.95), while again dealing with the southern United States, focuses on the present and provides ethnographers of the Caribbean numerous seeds for thought. Which leads us fairly naturally to *Gardening in the Caribbean*, by Iris Bannochie & Marilyn Light (London: Macmillan Caribbean, 1993, cloth £10.95) and *Wild Plants of Barbados* by Sean Carrington (London: Macmillan Caribbean, 1993, cloth £12.99), the first a how-to guide devoted largely to ornamental plants, and the second a useful illustrated compendium that describes more than five-hundred wild plants of all kinds.

A bumper crop of guide books has reached us. *Caribbean Ways: A Cultural Guide* (Westwood MA: Riverdale, 1993, paper US\$ 19.95), by the well-meaning Chelle Koster Walton, deliberately skirts the Club Meds and KFCs in "quest of an authentic [Caribbean] experience"; she gets much of it just about half right – in Jamaica, *abengs* become "cow-bells," in Martinique l'Anse Mitan gets confused with l'Anse à l'Ane and le François is canonized St. François, the Guadeloupean drum called *gwo ka* turns into *quo wa*, and her garbled ideas on "language" (p. 218) are almost worth quoting in extenso (though we won't). *Rum & Reggae. The Insider's Guide to the Caribbean: What's Hot and What's Not*, by Jonathan Runge (New York: Villard, 1993, paper US\$ 17.00), which updates a 1988 St. Martin's Press publication, touts everything that *Caribbean Ways* eschews – "the best nude beaches," "the wildest yachting nightlife scene," and ... you get the idea. *Jamaica in Focus: A Guide to the People, Politics, and Culture*, by Marcel Bayer (London: Latin America Bureau, 1993, paper £5.99), has nothing on hotels or beaches but provides an excellent introduction to social life and history – the sort of thing every island visitor should read. *St. Vincent and the Grenadines*, by Lesley Suttly (London: Macmillan Caribbean, 1993, paper £5.50), is a passable Baedeker by a veteran sailor and 20-year-long resident. There are two new texts for the Dutch market – *Suriname* (Landenreeks), by Wim Noordegraaf and Marie-Annet van Grunsven (Amsterdam: Koninklijk

Instituut voor de Tropen, 1993, paper NLG 14.90), and *Suriname*, by Wim Noordegraaf (The Hague: ANWB, 1994, paper NLG 27.50) – the latter a detailed, practical guidebook for visitors to all parts of the country (including the new tourist-island developments in the Saramaka region where we worked), as well as to French Guiana and Guyana.

A very different guidebook is *Martinique* (Paris: Gallimard, 1994, paper FF 175 – though bookstores on the island charge FF 204.75). Profusely illustrated with encyclopedia-style images (some as small as one cm²), written in part by university scholars, and covering with apparent expertise everything from plate tectonics and marine life to history and literature, this ambitious work nevertheless disappoints. It views ongoing cultural practices with a downward gaze, combining folklorization and museumification (with scarcely a word to let the reader know that Martinique's largest industry is tourism, which is wreaking great transformations throughout the isle). We are told, for example, in a handsomely illustrated two-page spread on the *gomyé* (the fishing boat dating back to the Caribs) that this craft "n'est plus utilisé actuellement que pour les courses traditionnelles" – and yet as we sit at the laptop and look out at Anse Chaudière through a papaya tree, we can see one *gomyé* whose occupant is pulling fishpots, two others engaged in laying out a *balaou* seine, and a fourth making its way from the *bourg* of Anses d'Arlet toward Petite Anse. And the blatant appropriation of illustrations from foreign historical sources renders poor service to the text's arguments for Martinique's specificity. The authors give no indication, for example, that the *Indien Caraïbe* on page 76 is a Kaliña from Suriname. Nor that the most important depictions of slave life are also lifted wholesale (and without credit) from Benoit's lithographs of that Dutch colony, embellished with a newly constructed commentary implying that they show the particularities of Martinique – the text accompanying "slaves returning from the fields" (which Benoit titled "slaves *on their way to the fields*") points to the unusual elegance of their clothing; Benoit's "wigmaker with his young slave" is described here as wearing "the clothing of a freedman, proud that he need not carry anything himself"; the depiction of a slave *fête*, accompanied by a quote from Frantz Fanon, fails to mention that the image in fact shows the distinctive Surinamese *doe*; the entry on *le costume* ("In rags or nearly naked while working, the slaves liked to dress up, whenever they could, in fine clothing and jewelry") in fact shows typical nineteenth-century "*missie*" dress from Suriname; and even the vision of the heroic Maroon (here embedded in quotes from Césaire, Chamoiseau, Confiant, and Glissant) is illustrated by two uncredited images from Suriname – one a runaway slave and the other

a slave(!) that Benoit drew carrying a basket for his master (who is here simply cropped out of the picture).

This season's culinary harvest is sparse. *Island Cooking: Recipes from the Caribbean* (Freedom CA: Crossing Press, 1988, paper US\$ 10.95) is a solid, unpretentious sampling from throughout the region, by the Jamaican-born Dunstan A. Harris. In *A Taste of the Tropics: Traditional & Innovative Cooking from the Pacific & Caribbean* (Freedom CA: Crossing Press, 1991, paper US\$ 10.95), Jay Solomon – an Ithaca NY restaurateur – does his bit for globalization by providing a number of generic “island style” dishes and drinks. *Cooking the Caribbean Way: A West Indies Recipe Book* (St. Maarten: Lord & Hunter, n.d., n.p.) is a slapdash affair replete with recipes missing key portions, historical howlers (e.g., that “peanuts were brought to the West Indies from Indonesia in 1890”), and the anonymous authors’ “composite chef whom we call Celestine.”

Several new works on slavery and its aftermath. *The Danish West Indian Slave Trade: Virgin Islands Perspectives*, edited by George F. Tyson & Arnold R. Highfield (St. Croix: Virgin Islands Humanities Council, 1994, paper n.p.), includes original contributions by Colin Palmer, Svend E. Holsoe, Sandra E. Greene, Karen Fog Olwig, and Highfield. *The Kamina Folk: Slavery and Slave Life in the Danish West Indies*, edited by George F. Tyson & Arnold R. Highfield (St. Thomas: Virgin Islands Humanities Council, 1994, paper n.p.), is a fine compilation of testimonies (many in translation) from first-hand observers. In “*The Land is the Heritage*”: *Land and Community on St. John* (St. John Oral History Association, 1994, paper n.p.), Karen Fog Olwig offers a little gem consisting of oral testimonies combined with a moving analysis of the ways St. Johnians understand their own incorporation into the modern global system. Anthony de Verteuil, principal of St. Mary's College, continues his series of high school-level, uplifting historical sagas with *Seven Slaves and Slavery: Trinidad 1777-1838* (Port of Spain: Scrip-J Printers, 1992, paper n.p.).

Some volumes didn't fit into our earlier categories. *Alternative Cultures in the Caribbean: First International Conference of the Society of Caribbean Research, Berlin 1988*, edited by Thomas Bremer & Ulrich Fleischmann (Frankfurt am Main: Vervuert, 1993, paper n.p.), includes a miscellany of papers, but as only some three of the twenty-three contributors are not German (or Austrian or Polish), the volume – which is largely in English with some French and Spanish – may be most useful as a window for non-German speakers on current Caribbeanist work across the Rhine. *El Caribe colonial*, by Consuelo Naranjo Orovio (Madrid: AKAL,

1992, paper n.p.), part of a series of quincennial pamphlets, makes a quick, encyclopedic run through the territory. *Small Country Development and International Labor Flows: Experiences in the Caribbean*, edited by Anthony P. Maingot (Boulder CO: Westview, 1991, paper n.p.) – for which we tried in vain to find a reviewer – contains a set of competent articles on the Anglophone islands, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti, that will be of interest to specialists. *'Bananensplit' in Europa: Protectionisme versus liberalisme in het Europese bananenbeleid*, edited by C.P. van den Tempel & G.M. van der Horst (Amsterdam: Caribische Werkgroep AWIC, 1994, paper NLG 32.50), gathers together a number of pertinent reflections and statistics about the European banana market. *Asuntos dominicanos en archivos ingleses*, edited by Bernardo Vega & Emilio Cordero Michel (Santo Domingo: Fundación Cultural Dominicana, 1993, paper n.p.), translates into Spanish five English-language sources, including little-known archival manuscripts, on the Dominican Republic. And Gert Oostindie's *Caraïbische dilemma's in een 'stagnerend' dekolonisatie-proces* (Leiden: KITLV, 1994, paper NLG 12.50), the expanded version of his inaugural address on the occasion of taking up a professorial chair at Utrecht, ranges through time and space across the Caribbean world to home in, at the end, on present-day realities.

Finally, and against all odds, the *Bulletin du Bureau National d'Ethnologie* (Port-au-Prince) has published a special issue, dated 1987-1992, devoted in large part to "Ayti before and after 1492."

RICHARD & SALLY PRICE
Anse Chaudière
97217 Anses d'Arlet, Martinique